



International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers

NAFTA 2.0 (“USMCA”) DOES NOT FIX NAFTA— CURRENT TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT MUST BE SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED TO STOP OUTSOURCING, STRENGTHEN LABOR STANDARDS AND ENSURE ENFORCEMENT OF LABOR STANDARDS

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has devastated manufacturing jobs in the U.S. (and Canada) as corporations have moved hundreds of thousands of manufacturing jobs (many of them belonging to IAM members) to Mexico, so that they can take advantage of workers who do not have the right to form a real union, collectively bargain fair wages, be free from discrimination and work in safe and healthy places. The IAM has submitted several recommendations to trade negotiators to ensure that a new NAFTA will benefit all workers in North America and stop providing incentives for corporations to move work to Mexico. To date, none of these recommendations have been included in the renegotiated text.

The current text does nothing to stop the outsourcing of aerospace, manufacturing, electronics, call centers and other jobs to Mexico. It adopts the same weak and ineffective labor standards in past trade agreements. It also does not contain an effective enforcement provision.

U.S workers have not waited 25 years since the time NAFTA was implemented to replace it with a slightly different version of other fundamentally flawed trade agreements, like the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP), which we rejected. We will not accept mere tweaks and more empty promises. Labor standards must be about actual and well-defined rights, specifically referenced by ILO Conventions and reports. And Mexico must demonstrate that it will implement and enforce these fundamental human rights prior to NAFTA 2.0 being considered.

The IAM urges Congress to call on the Administration to reopen NAFTA 2.0 and adopt the recommendations we have been calling for. If the current text of the agreement is not strengthened to dramatically improve labor standards, provide for effective enforcement of those standards, and remove incentives for corporations to outsource work to Mexico, among other things, the IAM will oppose the agreement.